UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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ENGLISH

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF
COLOMBIA

IPF:(1992-96) $ 11 700 000

(COL/91/002) - Support to the Institutional Development of Municipalities

Date of approval by the AC:[1/]	18 December 1991
Expected duration:	Four years
Proposed executing agency:	Government
Government implementing agency:	Departamento Nacional de Planificacion
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$100 000 Source of funds: IPF 100 000
Government cost sharing:	$ 3 615 000
Total UNDP budget:	$ 3 715 000

Project background

Colombia's development strategy has redefined the role of the State in order to concentrate its activities in the management of development, rationalizing the size and functions of the public sector, its relationship with regional, departmental, and municipal authorities, and increasing the participation of other development agents such as the private sector and the non-governmental organizations. Presently, the Government is implementing several programmes for the reform and modernization of the State, the public sector and the local governments with the objective of achieving a more competitive, efficient and productive economy.

The Government requested UNDP assistance to implement major programmes in the process of the structural reform of the state, modernization and democratization. Within this context, a Presidential Commission was created; and its recommendations have provided important inputs for the design of the new constitution of the country and have been acted upon by the present Administration of President Gaviria. The improvement of the management capacity of the country's public administration is being carried out with MDP funding; and the reform of decentralized institutions of the public sector to improve their efficiency is being implemented at the present time.

The Central Government has been unable to provide effective assistance, support and training for the municipalities to meet the new responsibilities as the State becomes more decentralized. It is essential to design a programme that would co-ordinate the activities of public and private organizations, provide support to the consolidation of local autonomy,

[1/] This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

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and strengthen its administrative capacity. Similarly, with the other programmes in this sector, the Government has requested UNDP assistance to develop the institutional capacity of municipal governments allowing them to perform their new functions. The proposed project will be financed with a portion of a World Bank loan that the Government negotiated under the structural reform of the state programme.

Description of project

The long-term objective of the project is to strengthen the managerial capacity of municipalities in areas such as planning, finance, project management, municipal administration and local participation for municipalities with a population of less than 100.000 inhabitants.

The immediate objectives of the project are to :(a) consolidate an institutional development support system for the municipalities, through the establishment of a legal structure at the different administrative levels to ensure the operation of the support system; the creation of technical units and committees at national, regional or departmental and municipal levels; the implementation of management and information system to support the institutional development of the municipalities that includes supply and demand of services, monitoring and evaluation, quality control, accounting and financial management of the programme; and evaluation of the systems and adjustments; (b) strengthen the institutional capacity of departmental and regional planning offices, through staff training on the institutional development of municipalities of less than 100,000 inhabitants; (c) improve the supply of services to the municipalities, through the training of public and private institutions, primarily in the areas covered by the proposed project, and the preparation of standardized training materials in municipal management, planning, finance, and community participation; (d) support municipal administrations in identifying their institutional development needs, through the design of appropriate methodologies and the identification of needs in 685 municipalities; and (e) establish an efficient communication system between national institutions, regional organizations and local governments to allow a rapid response to the needs of local governments.

Inputs

UNDP will provide 430 work-months of international and national professional personnel in institutional development (30 work-months), supply services (38 work-months), demand needs (38 work-months), communications (38 work-months), co-ordination (45 work-months), management information systems (70 work-months), consultants (171 work-months); subcontracts for accounting systems, support systems, communication systems, pilot experiences and institutional development at the municipal level; training programmes at central, regional and local levels; equipment for information systems and communication; and travel, mission, reporting and sundry costs.

Financial data

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Personnel	1 226 100
Subcontract	1 367 300
Training	500 000
Equipment	510 100
Miscellaneous	111 500
Total	3 715 000

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